

## albedo

The fraction of the energy of electromagnetic radiation reflected from a body (or surface) relative to the energy incident upon it. The reflection of light from a surface is, of course, dependent on the wavelength of the light, the nature of the surface and its angle of incidence with the surface. The term albedo usually connotes a broad wavelength band (visible, ultraviolet or infrared), whereas the terms reflectivity and spectral albedo are used to describe the reflection of monochromatic (single wavelength or small band of wavelengths) radiation.

**Source:**

PAC, 1990, 62, 2167 (*Glossary of atmospheric chemistry terms (Recommendations 1990)*) on page 2173